

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 of page 9 to read:

Nitrogen oxide filter section 26 includes a gas-impervious inner cylinder 34 and a nitrogen-oxide removing catalyst 36 positioned within inner cylinder 34. Inner cylinder 34 is spaced from an inner portion of particulate filter section 24 to create a substantially annular chamber 38 therebetween, i.e., cylinder 34 has a smaller diameter than an inner diameter of porous cylinder 32. Inner cylinder 34 is preferably constructed of a corrosion-resistant metal such as high temperature, stainless steel like AISI types 301-325 or 401-440, and has open ends 35. NOX catalyst 36 is preferably composed of a non-porous ceramic material that is bonded into gas-impervious cylinder 34. Examples of material suitable for catalyst 36 are: ~~cordierite~~ cordierite, mullite, silicon carbide and aluminum oxide. It should be recognized, however, that other types of ceramic catalyst support media may be used and any nitrogen oxide catalyst material available commercially may be suited for use with the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 of page 13 to read:

Source of inert gas 76 is preferably provided to supply inert gas 80 with heated gas 72 to control the burn rate of soot within filter system 10, i.e., the amount of inert gas [[76]] 80 controls the temperature of the filter by controlling the amount of oxygen available for burning. A preferred inert gas for use in system 64 is nitrogen.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 13 of page 14 to read:

As heat is applied to filter system 10 from regenerator 70, the soot will combine with the pumped-in heated gas 72 to burn and generate its own heat. The burning will propagate through filter system 10 and from unit 14 to unit 14 until all of the burnable soot is removed. The

effluent from the burning soot may be cleaned by scrubber ~~[[86]]~~ 82, if one is provided, and subsequently vented to the atmosphere. Thermocouple(s) 84 may be provided in each unit 14 to monitor temperature. Computer control system 78 may then prevent overheating by decreasing either the heat or the air supply or increasing the amount of inert gas to maintain a controlled burn rate.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 of page 15 to read:

After the regeneration process is complete, scrubber ~~[[86]]~~ 82 and regenerator 70 are disconnected, flange/valve 66 closed, and flange/valve 67 opened for communication with exhaust producing device 12. Filter system 10 may then be re-used.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 16 of page 18 to read:

Turning to Figs. 9 and 10, filter unit 210 includes a housing 212 for enclosing a plurality of particulate filters 214A-D. Housing 212 is preferably formed of a metal and includes an outer, gas-impervious shell 216 and an inner, gas-impervious shell 218. Housing 212 also includes a first end 224 and a second end 226 that are substantially closed or capped, as will be described further. A coupling 227 (Fig. ~~[[10]]~~ 9) for sequentially attaching filter unit 210 to an adjacent combination filter unit, e.g., unit 14C of Fig. 8, is also provided. A coupling 229 may be also be provided for coupling to adaptor 54 or a preceding combination filter unit 14.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 19 to read:

Particulate filters 214 are concentrically arranged within housing 212 such that a number of passages 220A-C, 222A-C pass adjacent at least one particulate filter 214. A passage 220A is also formed between an innermost particulate filter 214A and inner shell 218, i.e., inner shell 218

is concentrically positioned within innermost particulate filter 214A. Likewise, a passage 222C is formed between an outermost particulate filter, e.g., filter 214D in Fig. 10, and outer shell 216. Additional passages 220B, 222A-B may similarly be formed between particulate filters 214, i.e., passage 222A is formed between filter 214A and filter 214B; passage 220B is formed between filter 214B and filter 214C; and passage 222B is formed between filter 214C and filter 214D. Particulate filters 214 abut, or are otherwise sealed against, respective first and second ends 224, 226 of housing 212 so that gas cannot pass about the ends of the filters.